



Kentucky Social Studies Resource Guide High School: World History

Use the suggested sources below to help teach the Kentucky strand of the KAS for Social Studies.

HS.WH.KH.1 Describe the impact of world history on Kentuckians and how Kentucky impacted the world.



Title: DeSoto Meets American Indians in 1540 Diorama, ca. 1939

Context: This diorama, showing a meeting between explorer Hernando DeSoto and American Indians, was made by Works Progress Administration artists during the Great Depression (1930-1941). It was one of three shadow boxes created depicting American history that was used in Kentucky public schools.

Questions: How did European nations influence early America? How did American Indians influence Europeans? Why would artists depict this scene? Do you think this is a true interpretation of this event? Why or why not? Do students learn this history in the same way at schools today?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/A7FA9159-A297-4C23-AE21-360614093640>



Title: A Map of the British American Plantations... , by Emanuel Bowen, 1754

Context: This map shows sites such as English and French forts, American Indian groups, trails, "The Falls 6 miles Long" (Louisville), and more.

Questions: What was Kentucky's place and role in the British Empire in the mid-1700s? What were the benefits and challenges of having a colony for England? What were the benefits and challenges of being a colony? Who was living on the land that would become Kentucky then? How did the lifestyle of people living in Kentucky differ from that of people living elsewhere in North America and Europe? Did all Kentuckians live the same way?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/Maps/id/165/rec/2>

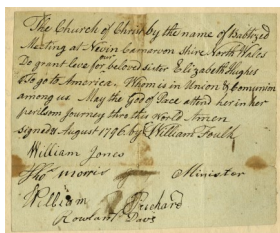


Title: Battle of Blue Licks, by George Gray, 1938

Context: Blue Licks was the last battle of the Revolutionary War, fought on August 19, 1782, in northeastern Kentucky. There, the Kentucky militia, led by George Rogers Clark, John Todd, Stephen Trigg, Daniel Boone, and others were defeated by British Loyalists and their American Indian allies. The Kentuckians retaliated and burned the villages and crops of the American Indians. This mural was made by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression (1930-1941).

Questions: Why is this an important moment in American history? How did the American Revolution impact and influence other world events? Explain. How are the white Kentuckians and the American Indians portrayed? Are both depictions accurate? Why or why not? Has war changed today?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/7F6D9746-D1DE-4A24-8548-950243044171>

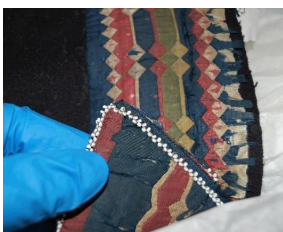


Title: Travel Permission Letter, August, 1796

Context: This letter from the Church of Christ at Nevin, Caernarvonshire, North Wales, granted permission for Elizabeth Hughes to travel to America.

Questions: What does this letter provide? Do you think this document was required or desired? Explain your reasoning. What type of travel documents are necessary today? Do they compare to this one? Why or why not? How have immigrants impacted Kentucky in the past and today?

Link: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25683/rec/1>

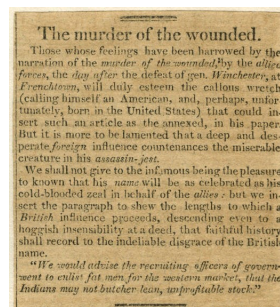


Title: American Indian Leggings, ca. 1800

Context: These wool leggings are trimmed with multi-colored silk and white glass trade beads. It was once believed that these were made by the Ojibway (Chippewa) people; scholars now believe them to be of Miami or Shawnee origin.

Questions: Why were beads a common form of currency during the colonial period? What other items were popular for trading? How did the exchange of items, ideas and customs between American Indians and Europeans shape the colonial period? These leggings may or may not have been made by American Indian people living in Kentucky. If not, how did they end up here?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/AB445DBE-FF75-4F5D-900F-908530304270>

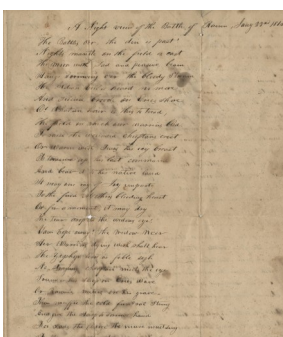


Title: Weekly Register Clippings on the Battle of Frenchtown, 1813

Context: Collection of newspaper clippings about a group of Kentucky militiamen during the War of 1812.

Questions: Choose one of the clippings in the collection. What can you learn about the role of Kentuckians during this global event from it? What is the tone of the article? Can you tell who the newspaper supports? How is this wartime reporting similar to and different from that done today?

Link: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25450>

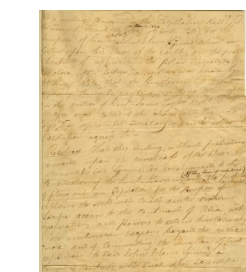


Title: Poem, "A night view of the battle of Raisin," 1813

Context: This poem was written by William O. Butler, a veteran of the War of 1812 about the Battle of Raisin on January 22, 1813.

Questions: Why do you think the author chose to write a poem about a battle instead of an essay, book, article, etc.? Give an example of some of the descriptive words used by Butler to paint a picture of the events. How does it compare to other literary works about war?

Link: <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25833>

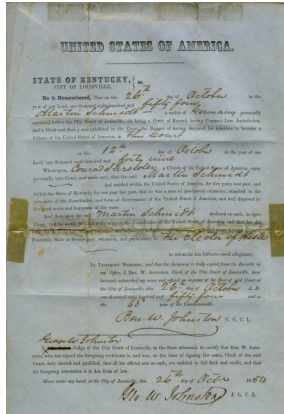


Title: Minutes and Resolution, November 12, 1824

Context: These meeting minutes detail the results of a lecture by explorer John Cleves Symmes, who proposed methods for exploring the "unknown regions" beyond the Arctic Circle.

Questions: What did the men present at the meeting resolve to do regarding Symmes' proposals? In what way is this an example of how Kentuckians interact with the world?

Link: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25825>

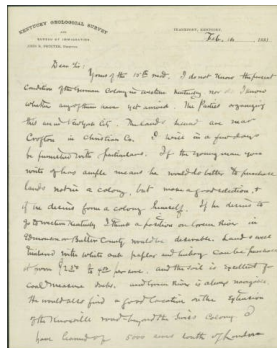


Title: Martin Schmidt Naturalization Papers, October 26, 1854

Context: Document attesting that Martin Schmidt has taken the oath to become an American citizen.

Questions: Where was Schmidt sworn in as a U.S. citizen? Why do you think he chose that location to settle in? What are some of the requirements to becoming a citizen? What did Schmidt have to swear to? How have immigrants impacted Kentucky in the past and today?

Link: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25573>



Title: John R. Proctor Letter, dated 16 February 1881

Context: Proctor was the director of the Kentucky Geological Survey and Bureau of Immigration. In this letter he describes a German colony in Christian County and outlines other areas in Western Kentucky that would be suitable for similar immigrant colonies.

Questions: How did immigrants shape the early United States? Did immigrants from different areas of the world have different impacts? Explain. What are some of the desirable qualities of the lands Proctor suggests? What will a charter accomplish? How do immigrants impact the culture of a region? Who do you think is organizing these colonies and why?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/11583/rec/40>



Title: Southern Exposition Posters, 1883

Context: Held in Louisville for 100 days beginning on August 1, 1883, the Southern Exposition featured technical and cultural displays from all over the world. It also had the largest display of incandescent light bulbs of the time.

Questions: How did the Southern Exposition connect Kentucky with the world? How did people share technology, culture and ideas in the 1880s? Do people share these things in the same way today? What lasting impact did the Southern Exposition have on Kentucky?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/RB/id/4476/rec/2>



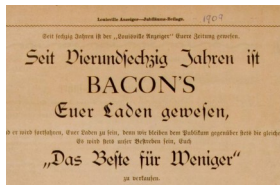
Title: The Swiss Colony Album Photographs of William L. Maclean, 1885

Context: During the 1880s the Kentucky Bureau of Immigration worked to encourage Europeans to settle in Kentucky. This photo album shows some of the immigrant colonies that were established in Laurel and Boyle Counties.

Questions: Why do you think the government wanted to increase immigration to Kentucky during this period? Was this a state or a national trend? What was it about Kentucky that made it attractive to European immigrants? Why did new Kentuckians choose to settle where they did? How were/are the daily lives of immigrants and "native" Kentuckians similar and different? What is Kentucky's history of attracting non-European immigrants?

Link: http://kyhistory.com/cdm/search/searchterm/Graphic8_Box5*/mode/all/order/nosort/page/1





Title: Louisville Anzeiger, 1909

Context: This German language newspaper from Louisville was in circulation from 1848-1933.

Questions: Who do you think was the audience for this newspaper? Why do you think it went out of circulation? What do you think was the purpose of this newspaper: to connect immigrants to their homeland or help them adapt to their new homes? Explain your reasoning.

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/296/rec/8>

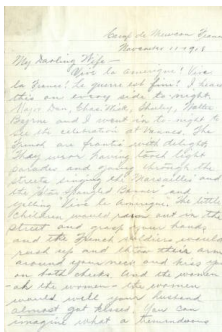


Title: Nena Shelton's Military Identity Card, ca. 1918

Context: A native of Lexington, Shelton served in France as the Assistant Director of the Army Nurse Corps. She was one of 10,000 women to serve overseas during World War I.

Questions: Was it common for women to serve in the military in the early 1900s? Is it common today? What do you think motivates people to help others far away from their own home?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/MS/id/1/rec/73>

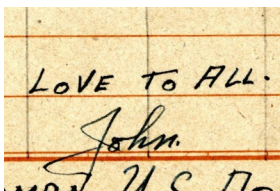


Title: George Chescheir to Elizabeth Chescheir Letter, November 11, 1918

Context: In this letter from France, a National Guardsman from Springfield, Kentucky, writes to his wife about the Armistice, the joy and appreciation of the French people, and his desire to return home and see his loved ones.

Questions: What is the tone of this letter? Give an example that supports your reasoning. How does Chescheir describe the reaction of the French people to peace? What is his prediction for future diplomatic relations?

Link: <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25889/rec/2>



Title: John H. Rodman Papers, 1942-1944

Context: During World War II, Rodman, an Owensboro native, was an infantry commander in the Philippines. Captured on April 9, 1942, he remained a Japanese prisoner of war until September, 1945.

Questions: Choose one of the pieces of correspondence in this collection. Identify its author, addressee and tone. What can you learn about Rodman's situation at the time the correspondence was written?

Link: <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/search/searchterm/Kentucky%20Historical%20Society%2C%20John%20H.%20Rodman%20papers%2C%20MSS%20141/field/source/mode/exact/conn/and>

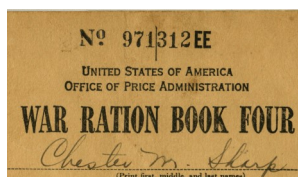


Title: World War II Propaganda Poster, 1942

Context: This poster features a soldier congratulating U.S. civilians for their increased production of supplies needed by fighting forces overseas: tanks, planes, guns, and ships. It hung in the public library in Glasgow, Kentucky.

Questions: In what ways did World War II affect Kentuckians at home and overseas? How did U.S. wartime production impact the outcome of the war? Did the methods of wartime production continue after WWII? To what effect?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/5206C29C-D29C-4685-A613-211979476450>



Title: Chester M. Sharp Ration Book, 1943

Context: During World War II, the U.S. government rationed certain foods and materials to ensure that the military had adequate resources to supply its forces. Civilians were issued ration books like this one to ensure that they, along with others, received their fair share of available resources.

Questions: Why was there a need for rationing during WWII? What items were rationed during this time? What are people directed to save after using their ration tickets? Why? Was WWII the only time goods were rationed in the U.S.?

Link: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25676/rec/1>



Title: Hans Reimar Stelter Collection, 1945-1948

Context: In 1945, Stelter was a German prisoner of war (POW) in Lexington who spent a week working on a tobacco farm owned by the Fister family. After the war, a lively correspondence between Stelter and the Fisters took place. These seven letters share Stelter's post-war experiences in Germany and his reminiscences about his time in Kentucky.

Questions: Read one of the letters. Compare the German post-war experiences of Stelter to those typical of the U.S. How long did Stelter know the Fisters? Why do you think the American family had such an impact on him? Do you think interactions like this between German POWs and Americans were typical? Why or why not? Do you think personal relationships between former enemies can help improve world relationships? Explain your reasoning.

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/search/searchterm/%20SC%201538/mode/exact>

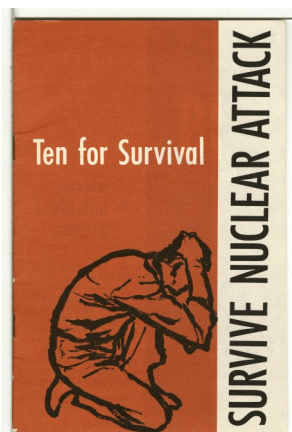


Title: Holocaust Survivors in Kentucky Oral History Collection

Context: This collection features interviews with nine individuals who survived the Holocaust and moved to Kentucky after World War II.

Questions: Choose one of the interviews and analyze a small portion of it using either the transcript or audio tract. Identify the basic information of the individual such as name, nationality, age, and other relevant personal facts. Then compare their experiences with that of one of the other individuals. How are they the same and different?

Link: <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/Holocst/search>



Titles: Survive Nuclear Attack Pamphlet and Envelope, ca. 1960

Context: The Office of Civil Defense sent this pamphlet along with others to Kentuckians in the early 1960s. The pamphlets covered topics such as how to build a bomb shelter, fighting fires, sanitation, home protection, and first aid.

Questions: What specific scenarios does this pamphlet and envelope cover? Do you think these instructions would have been adequate in the event one of the scenarios took place? Why or why not? What national and world events were happening that caused Kentuckians to be concerned about nuclear attack? Do these concerns still exist today?

Links: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25545/rec/1> and <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25555/rec/1>



Title: Chinese Families of Louisville Scrapbooks, Albert Chann and Jackson Woo

Context: These scrapbooks (compiled in 2013), include photos, letters, ephemera, and newspaper clippings related to the Chinese American community in Louisville.

Questions: How have immigrants shaped the modern United States? Do immigrants from different areas of the world have different impacts? Explain. Why do people preserve their cultural heritage? How has Chinese culture impacted Louisville's non-Chinese population? Why is it important for people of different cultures to learn about each other?

Links: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/8510/rec/27> and <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/8799/rec/96>



Title: Kayapó Headdress, ca. 1976-2000

Context: Dr. Darrell A. Posey (1947-2001) was a Henderson native but his love for science led him to the Amazon rainforests. There he studied the Kayapó people, promoted and lobbied for the rights of indigenous communities, and worked to protect natural resources from logging, mining and other deforestation projects. This headdress is hand woven with a hemp base and embellished with orange feathers.

Questions: What can Kentuckians learn from Posey's work today? How does an understanding of other cultures change how Kentuckians see the world?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/OCD438B8-6740-43D5-B6E7-995894209495>



Title: Poster from *The Elizabethtown News-Enterprise*, March 7, 1991

Context: This welcome home poster was published about one week after the conclusion of the Persian Gulf War.

Questions: How has the U.S. shaped the destiny of other countries? Does the U.S. have too much or too little influence in world events? Explain. Is this poster representative of how U.S. servicemembers have been treated after returning home from armed conflicts? Give an example that supports your reasoning.

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/74563F53-CE7C-4B53-B74B-714715451218>

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